

A P P E N D I X 5 . 1 . 1 .

HYGIENIC PRECAUTIONS

Article 5.1.1.1.

The use of needles and syringes in routine aquatic animal health work in *aquaculture establishments* for procedures such as blood sampling and vaccination should be carried out in a highly professional manner, ensuring that appropriate hygienic precautions are observed.

[The intraperitoneal use of unsterilised needles or syringes in aquatic animals should be professionally unacceptable.

The use of unsterilised or contaminated equipment (needles, syringes, etc.) or products is especially unacceptable between different aquaculture establishments and for live aquatic animals that are to be exported. It is a requirement, particularly applicable to aquatic animals that are to be exported live, that necessary care be taken to ensure the sterility of all the equipment and products associated with the conditions of certification.]

These precautions have particular importance for teams of veterinarians and other aquatic animal health specialists, including vaccination service providers.

[The range of organisms capable of being transmitted includes viruses, bacteria and protozoa. The list of infectious agents transmissible in the context of this Appendix continues to expand for all species of *aquatic animals*.]